



Alcohol and Tobacco Control State of Louisiana

ATC Sees Drop in Alcohol Sales to Underage during Annual Mardi Gras Crackdown

February 19, 2015

Baton Rouge, LA – Agents with the Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control (ATC) conducted underage compliance checks at 860 businesses during its two week long Mardi Gras crackdown operation. This is over triple the number of compliance checks conducted during the same period last year. As a result of the recent checks, 149 citations were issued for alcohol and tobacco sales to underage persons.

Below are statistics by parish on alcohol and/or tobacco products sold to underage persons from March 2nd through March 16th of 2015, compared to 2014:

PARISH	2015	2014
Jefferson	68 Checks, 18 Sales = 26% Sold	30 Checks, 8 Sales = 26%
Rapides	98 Checks, 12 Sales = 12% Sold	15 Checks, 1 Sale = 7%
Orleans	223 Checks, 27 Sales = 12% Sold	92 Checks, 28 Sales = 30%
West Baton Rouge	60 Checks, 7 Sales = 12% Sold	4 Checks, 0 Sales = 0% sold
East Baton Rouge	127 Checks, 13 Sales = 10% Sold	16 Checks, 9 Sales = 56%
Lafayette	182 Checks, 10 Sales = 5% Sold	10 Checks, 2 Sales = 20%
St. Tammany	108 Checks, 4 Sales = 4 % Sold	27 Checks, 3 Sales = 11%

“Statewide alcohol and tobacco sales to underage dropped from 33% last year to 17% this Mardi Gras season. Obviously, alcohol is a big part of Mardi Gras and it's great news to see that more and more businesses and servers are selling and serving it responsibly,” stated ATC Commissioner Troy Hebert.

Majority of the compliance checks were conducted using 16 and 17 year old undercover operatives. For Mardi Gras, ATC focused the majority of its checks in areas of the state with large parades and festivities.

For a list of all sales, please see the attachment.

For more information, please contact:

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